



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**  
New York District

# LAKE CHAMPLAIN SEA LAMPREY BARRIERS, NY

**Ecosystem Restoration**

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## FACT SHEET

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### DESCRIPTION:

The study area is the Lake Champlain watershed, which encompasses portions of the states of New York and Vermont. Environmental degradation of the watershed has resulted in the need for a comprehensive approach to solve problems affecting the watershed. Sea lampreys are contributing to a significant decline in fish stocks and other aquatic ecosystem resources in Lake Champlain. The proposed project would modify structures and/or operations of Corps projects on the New York side of Lake Champlain for improvement of the quality of the environment by limiting sea lamprey access. The Corps has found such measures to be successful solutions to this water resource problem in other geographic areas.

**AUTHORIZATION:** Section 1135, WRDA 1986, as amended.

**STATUS:** In cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Lake Champlain Basin Program, New York, the New York District conducted a site visit on Aug. 31, 2004. Corps reps. visited potential lamprey barrier sites around the watershed (NY).

NY District representatives met with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the US Fish and Wildlife Association in June 2005 at the Frog Farm Dam on the Great Chazy River in the Village of Champlain, NY. The Frog Farm Dam has been identified as a priority site for lamprey barrier work.

The Dam was rebuilt in the 1980s to act as a lamprey barrier. Currently lampreys are still breaching the barrier but the reason is unknown. The NYSDEC, which has showed its intent to serve as the non-federal sponsor, has requested that the Corps of Engineers do a study to determine the cause of this breaching and make suggestions for modifications which improve the effectiveness of the barrier.

Though a letter of support has been received from the NYS DEC new cost sharing requirements have put the projects on hold due to unavailability of non-federal matching funds.

### STUDY COST:

Estimated Feasibility Cost	\$200,000.00
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District Areas: Senators Gillibrand (NY) and Schumer (NY)